



BLOCK MANAGEMENT REGION 4

OVERVIEW

ACCESS CONCERNS FOR FUTURE

REGION 4 Landscape

- Region 4 has 19.4 million acres
- 65.3% or 12.7 million acres is private land
- 27.6 % or 5.35 million acres is federal lands (BLM, USFS, USFWS, BIA/Tribal)
- 6.7% or 1.3 million acres is DNRC state lands
- FWP has 94,000 acres of Wildlife Management Area

Region 4 BMA Stats

213 cooperators

1,023,501 acres private land enrolled

307,820 Acres public lands
accessed (BLM, FWP, State, USFS, etc.)

55,721 hunters utilize BMAs in R4

61,744 hunter days

2013 6 new landowners enrolled

2013 8 landowners dropped out

Satisfaction of BMA hunters 94% satisfied.

Hunter harvest Rate 31%



BMA MANAGEMENT TOOLS AVAILABLE to LANDOWNERS

- .. Individual landowner has no restrictions – hunter goes hunting
- .. Individual landowner wants restrictions (species, days of hunting, number of hunters per day, number hunters per party, sign-in certain time, etc.)
- .. Landowner requires hunter to use Sign-in boxes with maps w/o maps
- .. Check in with landowner before hunting
- .. Landowner controlled reservation system - hunter calls landowner
- .. Regional Call Center for Reservations at landowners request
- .. Aggregate BMAs with multiple landowners under one BMA
- .. Cooperative Management Model BMA – Multiple landowners intermixed with public lands – large land base – grazing associations
- .. Standard BMA multiple landowners under one BMA area but each landowner has their own criteria for hunter to follow
- .. Flexibility in contract criteria to accommodate these landowner requests

****TYPE 1 hunter administered and TYPE 2 has some requirement by landowner before using a BMA.

Reasons for Cooperators Dropping out of BMA program

- .. Property sold and new owners weren't interested
- .. Lease land to private hunters or outfitting
- .. Bad experience with hunters
- .. Change of hands within family (death or family differences) new generation had different ideas on handling hunting
- .. Cooperator Did not like FWP decisions on certain issue.

ACCESS CHALLENGES IN R4

BMA next to limited access area – hunting activities and pressure pushes wildlife to less hunted area. BMA users less opportunity for harvest.

Landowner allowing access but species FWP needs harvest on not available until after general season. Access limited or not available where population exists during season.

Generation of landowners that historically made living on land based on agriculture or ranch operations disappearing – saw hunting as a way to control wildlife numbers.

New generation of landowners different view of land use – subdivide, lease, outfit wildlife has value to bottom line, etc.

New legislation tax credit to provide public access to state lands.

Large Landscape areas with no public hunting / access – ineffective population management – R4 every Elk Management Unit (EMU) over objective.

Land locked public lands with very limited or no access.

Historic road access to public lands cut off with land ownership change.

Federal land management agencies travel plans restrict access to certain areas.

Leasing of land by private groups or by outfitters.

Land ownership changing rapidly in certain areas.

Land use changes either restricting access or change distribution of wildlife populations – Wind Farms, energy development, etc.

Changing Hunter attitudes and abilities – physically less able to hunt in difficult terrain.

Less desire to hunt rough terrain- want to use ATV not as much walk-in